



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 24.11 Thursday, March 15, 2018

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

BHS, McBride students set class walkouts

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A month after the Valentine's Day shooting that killed 17 at a high school in Florida, students across the country have scheduled a walkout from classes to protest gun violence and honor those who were killed.

The walkout was set for 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 14, at Belleville High School and McBride Middle School in the Van Buren Public Schools and was to last 17 minutes -- one minute for each of the people who died in the Florida shooting.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak told the school board at Monday's meeting that all three police departments -- Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter -- have been meeting with the students to set up a safe walkout.

He said the event is student-led and would include signs and chants. He said organizers were on both sides of the gun control issue.

Supt. Kudlak said the students are kids and they want adults to figure something out.

"They want to be safe," Kudlak said. "It's really non-partisan. They are exercising their choice."

Kudlak said the walkout was first scheduled to go out to the tennis courts at BHS, but then the students decided the 40-degree weather expected was too cold and they changed their destination to the school Commons (cafeteria). He said McBride students still planned to go outside.

A press release sent by Rebecca Mackey, a parent of one of the student organizers, said students planned to leave class at 9:55 a.m., with the protest beginning at 10 a.m..

Once students have gathered, event leaders Kaitlyn Plummer, Emily Wrath, (continued on page 19)



Photo courtesy of Bryan Ellis

A barn containing pigs and lambs burned at 21185 Martinsville Road, Sumpter Township, at 5 a.m. Monday. An electrical wire over the barn was damaged by the flames along with a phone cable, according to Sumpter Fire Chief Joe Januszyk. Chief Januszyk said he believes some of the animals escaped the blaze. In a Facebook post, Roland Apel, who owned the barn, said he lost all his piglets and two animals he calls "his girls." He said he already has picked up 12 piglets to replace those he lost. He said the insurance adjuster was out and the cause of the fire is yet to be determined.

911 threat of 'shooting up Belleville' results in closing BHS

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Someone called 911 to say "Belleville is going to be shot up." The call came in to the Van Buren Township dispatch center, which services Belleville and VBT, at 7:30

p.m. Monday, said Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman.

This threat led Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak to close Belleville High School on Tuesday. The other schools in the district remained open.

Chief Berriman said VBT police are working with Belleville on the threat. The FBI called the chief and they are working at tracking down the phone used in the threat.

Police say the person who made the

threat will be prosecuted when caught and those with any information are asked to call police.

BHS was closed the day before the scheduled March 14 protest against gun violence at the school.

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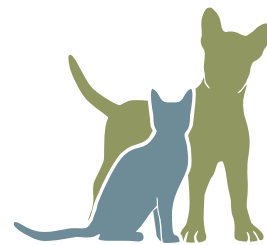
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SECOND FRONT PAGE



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Twenty five people attended the March 6 public hearing on a proposed route through Van Buren Township for the state's Iron Belle hiking/biking trail.

VBT OKs Edgemont to Martinsville bike trail along Huron River Dr.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

After a public hearing before 25 people on March 6, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved a short link of the Iron Belle Trail.

The link approved was referred to as Route Zero -- a new proposal presented at the March 6 meeting that steered away from the other five options presented that had a series of problems.

The board approved going out for a \$300,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund that would pay for building a short link of the biking/hiking trail that would run from Edgemont Street in the city of Belleville to Riggs Park on Martinsville Road. That grant would include VBT paying 25% matching funds.

Township officials wanted to meet the April 1 grant application deadline so it was in a rush to make a decision and didn't have time to work out details of how the trail would get from the Lower Huron Metropark to Riggs Park.

The cost of the approved link is estimated at \$400,000 to \$450,000, said Matthew Best, director of public services. The total cost of the shortest route from the Metropark to the city of Belleville -- 1.89 miles -- was estimated to be \$1.6 million in the board's packet, but that was upgraded to \$1,954,104 in Best's oral report on the routes.

The short, direct, scenic, lakeside route had been the board's favorite option. It went from the Metropark north on Haggerty and west over the old bridge spanning the Huron River and then past Sandy's Marina on Edison Lake Road and across E. Huron River Drive with a pedestrian light and then west to Belleville through the front yards of those on the south side of Huron River Drive.

But at the public hearing, several problems were revealed, beyond the dangerous traffic on E. Huron River Drive already reported by four homeowners led by retired Elwell Elementary School Principal Joe Monte. Those along the S curve near Edison Lake Road opposed having the trail in their front yards because of the speeding traffic and crashes that have occurred.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said he had talked with Sandy's Marina the day before the hearing and found that Sandy's had swapped land parcels with the township in 1995 and owned more than first thought. The 10'-wide trail was planned to go in the right of way along the north side of Edison Lake Road with landscaping and curbing and reduce Sandy's curb cuts to one for the house and one for the launch area.

Supervisor McNamara backed off that plan.

Also to get from Haggerty to E. Huron River Drive, the trail was to have taken the no-longer-used Edison Lake Road to the bridge and over the river to the marina area.

Steve Ortner carried the March 1 *Independent* to the microphone and pointed to the Google satellite picture of the proposed favorite route area on the front page.

Ortner stabbed his finger into the front page and said he owned that industrial storage building on Haggerty and had a deed for the abandoned roadway that they were planning to use for their trail.

He said his buddy brought him a copy of the *Independent* or he wouldn't have known about this.

"I had zero idea this was going on," he said. "Mlive shows the Iron Belle Trail going through my yard and fence ... This is extremely disturbing."

"I own Edison Lake Road and it shows up as a vacant road on my deed ... I pay \$1,000 a year in taxes on it," Ortner said.

He said he cleaned up the storage building a lot, but is not well-known in the community, except for at the township's building department.

Best said the township assessor shows that the county and township own the road.

"I have a deed for the road," Ortner said, noting he didn't think he had to bring it for the public hearing.

"I didn't know about this until Friday," he said. "You can't go across that bridge and get to Haggerty Road without crossing my property."

Trustee Sherry Frazier, who is a real estate agent, asked if he got a title search for the

property when he bought it and he said he did.

"I have a property title policy and I will bring that in, with the deed," he said, adding the paperwork on the property that he bought was in disarray so he has a real estate attorney on speed-dial.

"I see your concern," McNamara said.

[Ortner reportedly did bring in his documents to the township and he does own the roadway, as he said.]

Jerry Jenkins of Edison Lake Road said he is concerned about the integrity of the old bridge. He said if it is part of the trail, there will be bike rallies and 1,000 people will stand on the bridge for a picture.

Sam Lovell of PEA, Inc., the engineers who did the grant-funded, \$30,000 first phase of the route work, said, "We have not looked at the structural integrity of the bridge."

Jenkins asked if the repairs to that bridge were included in the estimates for the trail and he was told they were not.

The four other routes presented and then set aside for now include coming out of the Metropark on Bemis Road, heading west to the ITC high transmission lines and taking that route north to Savage Road and into the city on Savage, or to Martinsville to Riggs Park. Those routes encounter problems with railroad crossings and wetlands.

"We're in a little bit of a rush to get things going," McNamara said.

(continued on page 18)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Sumpter promotes Luke to Public Safety Director

At Tuesday's regular meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, in a surprise move, Police Chief Eric Luke was promoted to Public Safety Director with a \$12,000 raise. That would make his base pay \$120,000, with perks on top of that.

Trustee Don LaPorte, the liaison to the police and fire departments had recommended the consolidation to Supervisor John Morgan. Apparently, it also had been discussed by board members in the past, but not in public session. Trustee LaPorte said the fire department has the second-largest budget in the township -- a half-million dollars -- and had only a part-time chief to watch over it. The police department had a full-time chief to watch over its budget.

Attorney Rob Young said consolidating the two operations had many pluses, including grant opportunities and many overlaps in public safety. "A lot of communities do this," Young said.

Treasurer Peggy Morgan, a longtime supporter of the police and fire departments, made a motion to delay the promotion until the new budget, which starts April 1. There was no second to her motion. She said she just got the information on the issue and would like time to discuss it with the supervisor.

The motion to approve passed 5-1, with Treasurer Morgan voting no and Trustee Sheena Barnes absent. Surprise: Sumpter now has a public safety department.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

A woman in Sumpter Township called to tell us her experiences with the township and her water bill. She said last week she paid her quarterly bill of \$122.10. Then, this week she got another bill for \$229.50, which included the \$122.10 she already paid. She said there was a difference of \$107.40, so she wrote out a check for that.

Then, she got to thinking and called the township. She said that the lady at the township told her she really owed \$30.80 and they have been having computer glitches.

Our caller said she can't believe all the wasted time here, besides her time and her ruined check. She had to call to get the correct amount. And, those people at the township are wasting time and money for postage to send out bills that aren't correct.

The school board meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. on Monday and that was close to an hour after someone called 911 to say that Belleville was going to be shot up.

Supt. Kudlak must have received the information from police shortly after the board meeting ended. I was talking with him after the meeting and he was smiling and upbeat.

Soon after that he closed Belleville High School for Tuesday classes.

A woman called and left a message that she has called the county many times to get them to do something to repair the potholes on Belleville Road and nothing happens.

We've had calls about the crumbling cement on the Belleville Bridge, as well. The curb on one side of the bridge on the city side has crumbled terribly.

What a mess at the entryway to the



city, along with the crumbling seawall and fenced-off park at the bridge, and the deteriorating, empty buildings on Main Street next to the deteriorated parking lot. Welcome to Belleville.

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees is considering whether it should join a huge, national, municipal class-action lawsuit against opioid pharmaceutical companies, opioid retailers, distributors, and the like. It is being led in this area by Sommer Schwartz attorneys and one of them -- Parker Stinar -- gave a lengthy presentation to the board during its work/study session on March 5.

It's being modeled on the big tobacco law suit that made a lot of money and hundreds of municipalities have already signed up nationwide.

The board was told the law suit is being considered because the opioid epidemic has impacted communities nationwide. Board members had questions about some of the wording in the proposed agreement. They don't want to end up paying taxpayer money for expenses of the litigation if the lawsuit fails.

The agreement calls for the attorneys to get one-third of the gross settlement off the top and then pay the expenses of the litigation before paying the municipalities anything.

Stinar said the township's damages would be assessed before its share of the settlement is determined. It's unclear just what VBT has suffered financially from opioid abuse. He said it's sure not to go to trial, but there

could be a mini trial with some of the best plaintiffs.

Trustee Sherry Frazier said it's "an opportunity for some law firms to make some big bucks."

The board is having its attorney Patrick McCauley look at the documents presented and I've been told it looks like they will join in after McCauley gives his blessing.

It will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting for a vote.

On Sunday, around noontime, I heard an interesting series of events on the police scanner. It seems a man was refused purchase of a firearm at Dunham's and was standing outside the store with a hammer. Police were called. The man left.

The story that was related was that the man had a problem with someone at Harbour Club apartments and broke out the back window of that person's vehicle on Saturday night. The story goes on that on Sunday morning he came back and broke out the rest of the windows and then went to Dunham's to buy a gun. He was followed west on I-94 where he turned north on M23. The man had to give identification to the store for the purchase so police know who he is and where he lives.



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BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT

Established Dec. 3, 1994 First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

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Letters

Schools are a place for learning, not protests

To the editor:

I am very concerned by a decision made by our current Van Buren School Superintendent Kudlak.

A supposed nationwide protest is scheduled for March 14 intended to call attention to the lack of security and safety of our children in school.

While I welcome a dialogue between all sides of the issue and encourage the participation of our youth who want to engage in said dialogue, I am concerned about several aspects of our superintendent's and school board's decision.

The protest is scheduled for 10 a.m. on March 14 and it is planned to last for 17 minutes. While I agree that people who are passionate about the issue should have a right to voice their concerns, I do not believe it has to be done during school hours. School hours are meant for the education of our children. I wonder if in the consideration of this decision this was addressed. I suppose we'll never know as it was done behind closed doors.

Are our schools scoring so well in the Regional area State and Nation that missing part of the day isn't important? Do we realize that although the demonstration is scheduled to last 17 minutes it will take 5 to 10 minutes to get the children outside and probably at least double that to get them back in and settled down for instruction. That puts the protest at 40-50 minutes of lost school instruction time.

Another question is has this been pushed by the students alone or with the encouragement of parents or teachers?

When asked, superintendent Kudlak could not identify the source of who called for the protests to be allowed during school hours.

Additionally the safety of our students should be of paramount importance and how can that be guaranteed when they are separated from those who choose not to participate and go outside by themselves where they could be at the mercy of anyone looking to make a statement of violence during this protest. Especially in light of the 911 call received here locally that we were just notified and caused the cancellation of Belleville High School the day before this planned protest.

Finally, I believe our students shouldn't be used for the purposes of political or social issue advancement by either side. Advanced possibly by the organizers of these protests, sympathetic teachers or administration personnel or the peer

pressure of other students.

Schools are a place for learning and from the opening bell until the end of the day should be kept that way.

Sean House

Quit the bickering!

To the editor:

I remember back in the olden days when my folks would take us on a trip. We would all get in the covered wagon and away we would go. Soon, however, since there were three of us kids, we would start bickering. He's touching me. She's on my side. My father had a cure for that, however. He would reach back and slap the one he could reach the fastest. That usually took care of the problem for a few miles.

Now I see the children at the township hall are bickering. Could someone who has the mentality of someone over eight please slap the snot out of that group of immature idiots?

Vic Franzoi

Van Buren Township

P.S. I don't mean to offend idiots by grouping them with that bunch of _____ (fill in your own word).

White, Frazier show disrespect for Wright

To the editor:

I witnessed a very disturbing incident tonight during the March 6, 2018 township board meeting which quickly developed into a very disrespectful performance by both Trustee Paul White and Trustee Frazier. They each openly criticized Clerk Wright for his active participation within the International Clerks Association, questioned his responsibilities to that association, and then challenged him as to how it would benefit our community? These antics were just one more example of the "gotcha moments" that Paul White was so notorious for during his excruciating four years as township supervisor. This time he was working in complicity with Ms. Frazier -- his current stalwart companion and partner in trying to create chaos and confusion on the board.

They were both utterly ridiculous with their accusations, especially since the board had already previously approved Clerk Wright's official trips for the year and this expense was included in his presentation of that budget. During the Work Study session yesterday, March 5, nothing was brought up regarding this expense nor any vouchers in question. Once more Paul White and Trustee Frazier were quick to proclaim how they were both conscious of their fiduciary responsibilities to safeguard the taxpayer's money? Well isn't that peculiar, especially since they both feel free to spend the taxpayer's money when it pertains to their benefit?

Paul White submitted a Reimbursement Travel Voucher Request of \$83.43 for MTA

(continued on page 6)

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More Letters

(continued from page 5)

training/travel to Jackson, MI, on Jan. 18, 2018. The voucher request covered the cost of fuel (\$62.14) and dinner (\$21.29). That seems to be a rather expensive dinner for one who professes to be so frugal with his own money yet eats elegantly on the township's dime. Apparently, he couldn't wait to get home to eat? Then again on Feb. 1, 2018 Paul White submitted another MTA training / reimbursement travel voucher request of \$95.92 for fuel costs for MTA training in Lansing, MI, and this time without dinner.

Maybe he was dieting?

Then on Jan. 31, 2018 both Mr. White and Ms. Frazier each submitted MTA Training/Travel Reimbursement Vouchers, that included hotel rooms and meals for a stay at the Raddison Hotel in Jackson, MI. Paul White's hotel room was \$192.55 as was Ms. Frazier's, also \$192.55. They then spent \$45.10 for dinner that night. I suppose Wendy's must have been too far away?

Altogether these vouchers add up to \$609.55. The question isn't why these expenses were paid for Ms. Frazier, because she is a first-term trustee, but why was Mr. White attending this MTA Training when he's already had four years of township supervisor experience and he's criticized others for wanting to attend these training sessions in the past?

I spent 43 years traveling to and from home to work at AT&T and the drive was 45 minutes to Southfield -- often seven days a week. Never once in those 43 years did I find it necessary to get a hotel room overnight in Southfield. Jackson is just 45 minutes from Van Buren Township and the 45-minute drive could have saved taxpayers \$430.20. When it's beneficial to Paul White and Ms. Frazier it's ok to waste money, but when Clerk Wright has a legitimate reason to be traveling on behalf of our proud community it is somehow, according to Ms. Frazier, "taking a free trip at the taxpayer's expense"!

When will this disgusting behavior stop and when will Ms. Frazier learn to disregard Mr. White's deceitful ways? If she can't persuade herself to ask the three elected officers for assistance perhaps she might seek help from Trustee Miller who has earned the respect of many of the citizens of this community.

CeJay Marshall

Van Buren Township

Library Board plans April 14 groundbreaking

At Tuesday's meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board, more-detailed plans for the 11 a.m., April 14 groundbreaking were discussed.

There will be a pile of sand, construction hats, and toys, so children can play in the sand during the event.

There will also be a backhoe at the site as an indication of what's happening. Instead

of lunch, as previously considered, there will be cake to celebrate.

Invitations to the event are being mailed next week and are available at the library.

The six-foot-high chain link fence to block off the Fourth Street construction site will be put up around May 1, architect Dan Whisler told the board.

Then, they will dig a six-foot hole in the

nicely paved surface to become "a really big pothole." That's where the soil will be replaced with other soil for a better foundation.

The building committee has been waiting for the removal of the power lines over Fourth and Roys streets, since they need to be gone before workers begin erecting structural steel. The agreement with DTE was approved almost a year ago.

"DTE has its own pace," Whisler said.

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Obituaries



Dorothy Eleanor Wooge

DOROTHY E. WOOGUE

(November 19, 1933 - March 6, 2018)

Dorothy Eleanor Wooge, age 84, a ten-year resident of the Belleville area, passed away Tuesday, March 6, 2018, after a short illness, at Angela Hospice, Livonia, Michigan. She was born November 19, 1933 in Staten Island, New York, daughter of Edward Edwin & Dorothy Eleanor (Barrie) Tanner.

Dorothy had a home in Willis, Michigan and Indian Head, Maryland. She was a member of the Eastern Star, and the Lions Club in Indian Head, Maryland. She and her late husband, Ret. Lieutenant Colonel LuVern James Wooge, Sr., USA, were pillars of St. James Episcopal Church in Indian Head, Maryland. She also was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Belleville, Michigan. Dorothy enjoyed taking care of and spending time with her family. She loved traveling, and dressing up for Halloween. Dorothy is survived by one daughter, Carole Jeanne (Ronald) Wepler of Belleville, MI; two sons LuVern James (Rebecca) Wooge, Jr. of Ames, Iowa and William Edward Wooge of Washington D.C.; two grandsons Christopher Joseph Wepler and LuVern James "Trey" Wooge III; and numerous extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband LuVern Sr. on July 1, 2007, also one sister Carole Kay Larson.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 17, 2018 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500 from 6-8 PM. Funeral Services will be Sunday, March 18, 2018 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, Belleville at 2:00 PM with Pastor Ian Twiss officiating. Interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, with her husband. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue at <http://www.friendsofmichigan.org/donate/> and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Herman Hollen

HERMAN HOLLEN

(May 30, 1941 - March 7, 2018)

Herman Hollen, age 76, of Van Buren Township, died peacefully with his family members by his side, Wednesday evening, March 7, 2018.

Herman is the beloved husband of Donna for sixteen wonderful years; loving father of Kimberly (Trent) Jackson of Gregory, MI, Michelle (Rich) Priebe of Belleville, MI, Vickie (Ladd) Winne of Grand Ledge, MI, Peggie (Larry) Donelson of Lansing, MI, Lindie (Fudd) Henry of Haslett, MI, Kandie (The late Maurice) Williams of Lansing, MI and Chotsie (Arthur) Eastman of Florida; cherished brother of Elsie (Cecil) Craft of Manchester, KY, Willa (Otis) Philpot of Kentucky, Barbara Hayre of Kentucky, Marlene (Coolidge) Sargent of Manchester, KY and Marvin (Freda) Hollen of Manchester, KY. Herman is also survived by forty-nine grandchildren, seventy-nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, many other extended family and friends and his pride and joy, his dog "NeNe". Sadly, he is preceded in death by his first wife Maisie (Hayre) Hollen (d. 2001), step-son LeRoy (Tammy) Alward (d. 2010), his brother Hiram (Barbara) Holland (d. 2009) and sister Geneva Breymaier.

Born on May 30, 1941 in Clay Co., Kentucky, Herman proudly served his country in the United States Air Force. He had a deep love of the outdoors and camping. Mostly, he loved spending time with family and friends.

Visiting hours have been arranged locally on Saturday, March 10th from 2 until 8 PM at the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville. (734)-697-4500. Following visitation, Herman will be carefully transported and received with care by the Rominger Funeral Home of Manchester, Kentucky (606)-598-5151.

Funeral arrangements in Kentucky are pending at this time.

Interment will follow the funeral services at Little Abner Cemetery, Manchester, KY. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be directed to the charity of choice.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

More Obituaries on page 8

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Obituaries



Roger Arnold Maze



ROGER ARNOLD MAZE

(August 21, 1938 - February 15, 2018)

On February 15, 2018, Roger Arnold Maze passed away unexpectedly in Phoenix, AZ at the age of 79 following a surgical procedure.

Born on August 21, 1938 to Bill and Betty, he was a 1956 Romulus High School graduate and captain of the football team. He earned the status of U.S. Marine shortly after graduation.

He married Ruth Lucille Bard, moved to South Lyon, and had two sons, William (Beth) and David (Kristin). He enjoyed a variety of careers, including a brief stint as a private investigator.

He settled on the cutting edge of computer science for Ford Motor Company, providing an endless supply of punch cards in lieu of coloring books for his children and introducing computers to the Flemish in Belgium during the mid '70s. He became nationally ranked in muzzle

loading black powder and maintains national records. He eventually graduated to Sharps long range silhouettes and shotgun.

He enjoyed golf, loved life, and did not want a funeral or for anyone to mourn his loss. He made friends easily, and he was a genuine friend to many. He is survived by his wife and sons, as well as his older brother Wes and younger sisters Myra and Carol, as well as their children. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Reagan, Alissa, and Trevor and two great-grandchildren, Aaron and Xandra.



Paul Berec

PAUL BEREK

(June 15, 1936 - March 9, 2018)

Paul Berec, age 81, of New Boston, MI, passed away Friday, March 9, 2018 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born June 15, 1936 in Yugoslavia, son of Peter & Ida (Szabo) Berecz.

Mr. Berec retired from General Motors Romulus Powertrain plant after 23 years of loyal service. He was a member of the UAW. He enjoyed fishing, cooking and time spent with family.

Paul is survived by his wife Beverly Jean (Adler) Berec; four children Juliana Berec of Belleville, MI, Kimberly (Dave) Gallant of Waterford, MI, Debra (Greg) Corwin of Brownstown, MI and Jeffrey (Mary) Eichold of Madison Heights, MI; 11 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren and one on-the-way; also a sister Julie Berecz of Serbia. He was preceded in death by his parents, also a brother Zoltan Berecz. Dignified cremation rites have been accorded through David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Sandra Lee (Fulton) Love

SANDRA LEE LOVE

(October 12, 1945 - February 13, 2018)

Sandra Lee Love, "Sandi" (nee Fulton), former Mayor and longtime resident of Gloucester Township, NJ, passed away on February 13, 2018 at the age of 72 years.

Beloved wife of Alexander "Al" Love. Loving mother of Jason Love (Sara) of Somerdale, NJ and Jeff Love (Jennifer) of Williamstown, NJ. Proud grandmother of Cordelia Love, Sophia Love, Ian Love, and August Love. She is also survived by her brother, Gary Fulton (Amy) of Belleville, MI, as well as many loving nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Sandi was born and raised in Belleville, MI, daughter of the late Elmer and Betty Fulton.

She was loved by many and will be sadly missed by a community she gave so much to.

www.earlefuneralhome.com

BILL RAINS

(February 10, 1938 - March 2, 2018)

Survived by wife Carolyn; five children Ron, Brenda, Lawrence, Doug, Wanda; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one brother; three sisters. Services at Sumpter Chapel of Janowiak Funeral Home.

www.janowiakfuneralhome.com



Angela Renee Atkins

ANGELA RENEE ATKINS

(March 9, 1978 - March 2, 2018)

Angela Renee Atkins of Westland, MI, age 39, formerly of Belleville, MI, died suddenly Friday, March 2, 2018. She was born March 9, 1978, in Ypsilanti, MI, the daughter of Carl Kevin and Linda Gail (Turner) Sweeney. On May 17, 2003, she married Matthew David Atkins in Wayne, MI and he survives.

Angela will always be remembered for her love of family, nature and animals. Besides her loving husband, she is survived by her mother and father, Linda and Carl Sweeney; three children Emily, Abbie and Ava; brother, Kevin (Jen) Sweeney; sisters Kandi (fiance Tim Rowe) Perry, and Jennifer (Kurt) Neal; several nieces, nephews and cousins. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

More Obituaries
on page 7

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, March 19 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 20 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 21 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, March 26 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. at the Commons at Belleville High School.
- Tuesday, March 27 -- Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 28 -- Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, April 2 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

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Sumpter Planners OK Verizon monopole for Pumpkin Factory site

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A 175-foot-tall Verizon monopole was approved for about a 3.655-acre site at the southwest corner of the Pumpkin Factory farm at 48651 Harris Road.

At its regular meeting March 8, the Sumpter Township Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the special land use for a wireless communications tower, contingent on the township splitting off and rezoning the tower site.

Planner Christopher Atkin of Carlisle/Wortman of Ann Arbor explained that under the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, the township has 60 days from application to approve or deny a communications tower and if the 60 days expire, the tower is automatically approved. He said Sumpter was 30 days into the 60-day limit.

There were two public hearings on March 8, the first one on rezoning from the farm's present Single Family Residential (R-2) zoning district to Agricultural (AG), which allows communications towers. The second public hearing was on the special land use required for a tower.

Property owner Linda LeBlanc said years ago she and her husband were offered \$1.5 million for their farm for a subdivision, explaining the residential zoning for the farmland. That was before the bottom fell out, she said. Later she said, Pulte Homes offered \$800,000 for the farm.

"I'm 71 going on 72 and I'm still farming," LeBlanc said. "I don't miss what I don't have."

The site of the monopole was expected to be 3.3 acres, but it had to be expanded slightly to allow for the 200 feet required setback from any Residential zoning. The site will have a Lohr Road address.

LeBlanc said she lives at 48761 Harris Road on 1.21 acres, which is separate from, but adjoins, the farm.

Fred Law represented Verizon in the presentation to the commission. Four neighbors spoke against having the monopole in their neighborhood.

Josh King, who with his wife and three children live across Harris Road from the farm, was the most persistent with questions.

He asked if there would be a heavy electrical burden and Law said it uses regular 120 kw power, low energy, which is not a massive draw on the electrical grid.

"We don't have a cell tower now and we lose power all the time," LeBlanc said.

"I don't want it right across the road from my home," said another neighbor, asking Verizon to go farther on LeBlanc's property instead of by Swan Creek at Lohr Road.

He said she is getting \$1,000 a month, "... and it's screw the neighbors. I'll get my \$1,000."

Atkin said the placement of the tower is not up to the planning commission.

During the rezoning public hearing, King asked to see the map that shows where Verizon towers are needed in the township and commission chairwoman Jane Stalmack said he could see it during the second public hearing in a few minutes.

King said if he's able to see the tower from his home, he'll sell his house. He said the tower would impact his home's value.

Law said Verizon looks at the propagation map that is a computer model set up to determine which areas are served well and which are not served well. Verizon determined there was a hole in its coverage and asked Law to go out, meet the ordinance requirements, and find a site.

He said they try to avoid wetlands, floodplains, and start crossing parcels off their map.

"A big problem is the airfield to the northwest," he said. "There's a pretty specific area we can use."

Commissioner Jay Bardell said the pole was identical to the tower approved last year to go up on Haggerty.

Mrs. King asked the commission to not pass the rezoning recommendation to the township board and to look at preservation of the land.

"We want trees and green ... This is frustrating," she said. "We will list our house very quickly."

"This tower is going south of my home," LeBlanc said. "I live on the corner of Harris and Lohr, 180' from the road. In case it falls, it's going to fall on my property."

"Because of trees and the farm itself, you'll probably only see the top of the tower," she said to the Kings.

She said her other neighbor "... is upset. It's not directly across from him... He will see it from his backyard ... Where he got the idea I was getting \$1,000 a month is beyond me."

"That's our future -- the cells," LeBlanc said.

Township Trustee Matthew Oddy, who sits on the planning commission, said, "This is one of those situations where it's not in my backyard -- NIMBY."

He said everyone wants cell phones, but

nobody wants the towers near them.

"We're moving into the new age ... but nobody wants it in our backyard," Oddy said.

When Trustee Oddy asked about moving the tower farther to the east, Law said they are right on the edge of the floodplain, just outside it, and have to be careful.

"If there's a flood, you don't want to lose your cell phone," Law said.

Oddy asked if the pole could be raised higher and put into a floodplain and Law replied that would take a different batch of approvals and timelines and he didn't know if it's possible.

"Any time you move into the floodplain, the state folks look at displacement and mitigation," Law said. "You can't just build it six feet up so it never gets wet."

He said there are a whole myriad of other considerations and it takes six to 12 months to look at all the impacts.

When asked how deep the foundation would be, Law said it is 28' deep.

At the special land use public hearing, Atkin said the tower would be 172 feet tall plus three feet at the top, 10,000 square feet fenced-in area with a six-foot fence around it with barbed wire at the top, if the commission approves the barbed wire. This area is surrounded by a farm and a gravel drive is used to enter the site for maintenance.

After approval Verizon would do a geotechnical investigation of the soils and set up removal conditions and a landscaping plan to buffer the equipment from view. No lighting is required on the tower, Atkin said, noting it was signed off on by the FAA because it is not tall enough to need lights.

The monopole is six to seven feet in diameter and there are two 3x3x4.5' cabinets, one for transmission and one for the 10kw DC generator, which is powered by propane and used only for emergencies.

Commissioner Joy Cichewicz, who made the motion to approve the special land use, said she would put a tower in her backyard, since they are important to getting cell phone service.

In other business at the meeting, Atkin

(continued on page 15)

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Wi Fi HOTSPOT



Belleville High School senior Patrick Burrage, II has signed to Wayne State University on an academic Journalism scholarship. Patrick plans to seek a minor in secondary education along with playing football at WSU. Patrick is with his mother Stephanie Burrage and father Patrick Burrage.



Keystone Academy Students of the Month for February showed exceptional Courage. They are, in front from left: James Ringer (1st), Bentley Booth (1st), Nadalyn Hanceri (2nd), Gracie Chamberlain (1st), Dallas Caudill (2nd), Alina Harrington (K), Charley Luft (K), Lucas Tupacz (K), Madison Jackson (Y5), and Ayden McCormick (2-not pictured). In the middle row from left are: Aidan Neal (5th), Chloe Abney (5th), Jacqueline Stack (5th), Lois Ureche (4th), Blake Sperr (4th), Ariel Hawkins (3rd), Lily Giacalone (3rd), Matthew Rouse (3rd), and Ayden Witmer (4th-not pictured). In back, from left, are: Steven Gould (6th), Katie Nguyen (6th), Mya Falconer (6th), Sydney Edwards (8th), Madyson Jasper (8th), Teofil Calancea (8th), Nolan Stran (7th), Efraim Calancea (7th), and Tierra Foley (7th).

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Lakeside site condos going up on Liberty St. at the Belleville Bridge



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Timothy Breault, at right, is building six, lakeside site condos at Belleville's front door -- and fixing his part of the seawall. Belleville native Jeffrey Stabnau, left, of Real Estate One in Ann Arbor, is selling the upscale homes.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Six site condominiums, each a different color, are under construction on Belleville Lake next to the Belleville Bridge.

The six on North Liberty Street will complete the planned unit development (PUD) approved by the city of Belleville several years ago, but not completed.

Timothy Breault of Breault Homes purchased the property and launched into building the "coastal modern" design on the lake. Breault, who lives in Plymouth, has offices in Canton and Naples, FL, where he has constructed many homes on the water.

He said the starting price for each, freestanding home is \$485,000, with lots of additional features available.

When asked about the deteriorating seawall along the lakeside property, Breault said he has talked to contractors and the needed repairs will be done in the spring.

He said they will put walls at the ends of the repaired seawall and connect to the adjoining repaired seawall after the current condominiums and city do their work.

The city is opening bids April 2 on its seawall repair for Doane's Landing park and the current condo association is expected to use the same contractor for its work.

Breault said the seawall wasn't built correctly in the beginning. He said it will not be a problem for his upscale development.

He said he wants to talk his wife into moving from downtown Plymouth to one of his lakeside homes. He said he has an open floorplan with nine-foot ceilings, eight-foot doors, and oak flooring throughout.

Breault said the homes are true lake homes

instead of cottages. He said the exterior will be with stone and wood and no vinyl siding. There are four bedrooms and a loft and views of Belleville Lake from every level, from the walkout basement to the second floor.

Breault said he plans to have all six done by the end of the year and sold. One already is sold.

Jeffrey Stabnau, a Belleville native now living in Pittsfield Township, is listing the site condos as sales manager of Real Estate One in Ann Arbor.

He said he has the site condos listed on line and is getting interested buyers from out of state, some employed by Toshiba.

Stabnau said Breault usually has other people oversee his building projects, but he has taken a personal interest in the Belleville condos.

"He's really excited about these and it's fun to see him work," Stabnau said.

Rep. Pagan to meet with constituents March 24 at Belleville City Hall

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, will hold her first of two March coffee hours at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 24, at Belleville City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville.

Her second coffee hour for the month will be at 7 p.m., Monday, March 26, at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

Rep. Pagan invites residents to join her to discuss their thoughts and ideas on how she can best represent and address their needs.

For those unable to attend the coffee hours, Pagan invites individuals to contact her directly at KristyPagan@house.mi.gov or by calling (517) 373-2575.

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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Faith Assembly Church on East Huron River Drive in Belleville is inviting everyone to their free dinner and movie night on Good Friday, March 30, beginning at 6 p.m. A & W is on the menu followed by the playing of "Passion of the Christ" for adults, and the movie titled "Hop" for the kids, along with canvas painting, starting at 6:45 p.m. An Easter egg hunt will follow the Easter Sunday service at 11 a.m. Call (734) 697-6704.

The Yankee Air Museum will be holding its annual Spring Surplus Sale this Saturday, March 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the museum. The sale is open to the public, however, a museum-member-only preview will start at 9 a.m. Items include aircraft models, GI Joe figures, lithographs, manuals, aviation and history books, aviation caps, collector plates, military patches, photos, prints, and much more. Cash and credit cards will be accepted. For more information, call Christina Warren at (734) 483-4030, ext. 239 and visit www.yankeeairmuseum.org.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter is holding their monthly pet adoption event this Saturday, March 17, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Petco Pet Store

on Warren Avenue across from Westland Mall. Call (734) 461-9458.

The chicks are in at the Willis Feed Mill in Willis. The mill is located along the railroad tracks behind Boneheads BBQ off Willis and Meridian Street. They offer dog and cat food, bird seed, poultry feed, horse and livestock feed, and many certified organic products. They're open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, from noon to 4 p.m. Call (734) 461-1111.

Sumpter Parks & Recreation will be holding its annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 24, from noon to 1 p.m. at Graham Park in Sumpter. The free event will feature egg hunts in several age groups. The Easter Bunny will also be on hand. Rain date is Sunday, March 25.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? There is no charge. Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion.

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK “OUI LEE”



Meet **Oui Lee**, he's a spunky and fun 1 year and 7 month old Chihuahua mix ready for his fur-ever home. He's loaded with energy and is affectionately known as "Wheels" here since he just keeps on rolling even after recent surgery. The surgery was to correct a birth defect in his back leg but no worries he is healing nicely and has full use of his legs. **Oui Lee** likes getting attention, pets and cuddles from you and is not camera shy for those who love taking pet pictures to share. He also seems fine dressing up in fun outfits especially if they keep him warm on cold days. We have seen him show a grumpy side on occasion so a home with small children may not be an ideal fit for him. If adorable is what you like then he definitely fits that bill being small in size with huge stand up ears and black button eyes. **Oui Lee** is a really good little dog that will make a great furry addition so call today to meet him. He's neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

Bellino's bill ending driver responsibility fees signed into law

Gov. Rick Snyder has signed legislation authored by State Rep. Joe Bellino that brings punitive driver responsibility fees to an end on Oct. 1.

Bellino, R-Monroe, introduced the measure, which was passed by the Legislature last month as part of a multi-bill package to end the fees and offer full forgiveness of outstanding debt. The elimination is a full year ahead of the 2019 date that fees were scheduled to cease.

"People who are forced to pay driver responsibility fees get nothing in return except increased debt and, in many cases, job loss for lack of transportation," Bellino said. "I am proud to be a part of bringing these ill-conceived fees to an end and enabling Michigan families to escape the crushing debt brought on by the fees."

In addition to Bellino's bill eliminating the fees as of Oct. 1, legislation enables people who lost their driving privileges to regain them without paying the reinstatement fee now through Dec. 31. People on monthly payment plans will receive immediate debt

forgiveness, and others may participate in workplace development training programs to regain their driver's licenses prior to Oct. 1.

"These fees have negatively impacted hundreds of thousands of Michigan families since their enactment in 2003, and it is high time we bring them to an end," Bellino said. "We are empowering people to get back behind the wheel and take part in Michigan's remarkable comeback."

Rep. Bellino's district includes Sumpter Township.

It's Pothole Season

The Wayne County Department of Public Services said it can't fix potholes unless it knows where they are. Report Wayne County potholes to 1-888-ROAD-CREW.



PFC Dawson Frankowiak graduated from U.S. Marine Corps boot camp Jan. 5 at Parris Island SC. He was a member of Fox Platoon 2005. He now is attending his MOS (military occupational specialty): Fixed air frame mechanic. He is the son of Len and Tabatha Frankowiak of Ypsilanti and grandson of Bill and Sherry Zumbro of Belleville.

Invite your PEEPS to Church!

Good Friday Mar 30th 6pm Free Dinner & Movie
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Adult volunteers at Trinity work to fill the Friday bags that will furnish food for students who may not be able to eat on week ends.

Trinity Church launches 'Friday Fill-Up' food program for students

On a chilly Saturday in February, some two dozen adults and kids gathered in the basement of Trinity Episcopal Church to assemble 80 bags of food -- enough to feed 20 kids breakfast and lunch every weekend in March.

Volunteers delivered the food to Rawsonville Elementary School on the following Friday.

The program is called the "Friday Fill-Up." Its mission statement reads: "Animated by our faith tradition's teachings to care for others, the Friday Fill-Up program strives to reduce food insecurity in the Van Buren School District by feeding weekend meals to the most vulnerable among us: our children."

The Friday Fill-Up came about when church leaders talked with school officials and learned about kids in this community who get breakfast and lunch at school Monday through Friday, but sometimes have to face bare cupboards over the weekend.

Hunger is associated with a host of issues for children, including difficulty concentrating and learning; developmental delays; behavioral and emotional challenges like anxiety, hyperactivity, and aggression; and elevated risk for chronic illnesses such as anemia and asthma.

The bags contain nutritious, non-

perishable foods with an emphasis on items that are easy to open and consume with little to no cooking skills: jars of peanut butter, containers of apple sauce, shelf-stable milk, cereal, granola bars, microwave-ready mac and cheese, etc. They are designed to provide enough calories to cover at least breakfast and lunch for one child for two days. Some dental hygiene items are also included.

Pastor Ian Reed Twiss said the church plans to continue to feed at least 20 kids every weekend through the end of the school year. They hope to be able to expand that number to at least 50 by the fall and meet these kinds of food needs in other schools in the district.

Volunteer energy is strong, so their focus is on seeking grants and additional funds to keep the program going and expand its impact, Pastor Twiss said.

Financial donations are welcome. Checks can be made out to Trinity Episcopal Church with "Friday Fill-Up" in the memo line and sent to the church at 11575 Belleville Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Approximately \$40 feeds one child every weekend for a month.

Community help is also always welcome. For more information or to volunteer, contact Gabby Burton (gbtracy9@gmail.com) or Martha Hanoian (children@trinitybell.org).

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Sumpter Plan

(continued from page 9)

gave an update on the land use master plan on which he has been working.

He said among the highlights are the zoning adjustments for manufactured house communities and how to consolidate that.

Atkin also said the township hasn't been active in setting up Capital Improvement Projects, which is required. He said the Capital Improvement Projects list usually is set up at budget time and is essentially a wish list, a five-to-seven-year prioritized plan. The projects have to be a benefit to the community as a whole, such as for public safety or water/sewer. He said it allows the township to start setting aside money. He

said it is constantly revised because things change. It lets the township residents know what direction they are going.

He said the master plan is still really rough and he is still working on it. He said at the April 12 meeting he hopes to have a little more polished master plan with maps.

Atkin also said the Verizon tower is not a done deal. He said the planning commission is just a recommending body and the township board makes the final decision on the rezoning. That item is expected to be on the township board agenda March 27.

The commission did, however, make the final decision to approve the special land use permit for the tower, if the rezoning is approved.

Information on teens using drugs set at St. Joseph Hospital

Young people today are faced with conflicting, confusing and often inaccurate information from questionable sources to guide them in making decisions about substance use.

Parents face similar difficulty in communicating with their children about substance use and determining what limits to set and how to respond if their child may be using substances.

Where can families get accurate, reliable information to help with these decisions?

"Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do" is a free, ongoing, two-part education series that provides helpful, hopeful, practical information for parents, teens, families and people who work with teens/families.

Part One provides information on understanding teen substance use and recognizing signs that may indicate a young person is involved with alcohol / other drugs. Part Two includes separate sessions for adults to learn "what to do" when an adolescent substance use problem

is suspected or identified, and for teens to explore their beliefs about and use of substances. Adults and teens also hear a talk by a young person in recovery from a substance disorder.

The "Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do" series is sponsored by Dawn Farm, and co-sponsored by the Ann Arbor Public Schools, St. Joseph Mercy Greenbrook Recovery Center, and the WISD/LESA Health Educators' Learning Network (supporting and advocating for Whole School, Whole Community, and the Whole Child Approach-WSCC).

The programs are presented by Dawn Farm youth and family services therapists.

The April 2018 series will be presented from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday April 3, (part one, What to Know) and Tuesday April 10, (part two, What to Do). The "Teens" programs are held at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti, in the Exhibition Room on the first floor. The series is free and open to the public. Parents, other family members, teens, students and people who work with teens are all welcome, and families are encouraged to attend together if they would like to. Free literature about alcohol / other drugs and teens is also provided.

For more information phone (734) 485-8725, e-mail info@dawnfarm.org or see <http://dawnfarm.org/programs/teens-using-drugs/>.

Birthdays

March 4 -- Ida Thompson
March 6 -- Susie Estemeyer
March 11 -- Jessie Williams
March 14 -- Cynthia Barnes
March 21 -- Jerry Zywicki, Melissa Griffin
March 25 -- Erica Fulton
March 30 -- Joe Banotai

Do you have a birthday in March? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation Presents:

CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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— Albert Einstein

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March is Quilt Show time at the Belleville Area Museum

The 22nd-annual Quilt Exhibit at the Belleville Area Museum, sponsored by the Western Wayne County Quilt Guild, runs through March 28.

The museum is hosting more than 150 quilts, many of which are for sale. Hand-made, machine-quilted, finished, and unfinished quilts are on display.

In addition, there is a raffle basket filled with sewing items for visitors who vote for their favorite quilts. A ribbon will be awarded to the winning quilter at the end of the show.

There also will be Bed Turnings every Saturday and quilt guides on hand to answer questions and give quick sewing lessons. Bed Turners are Marjorie Fromm, Cheryl Parent, and Janet Steele.

The museum, at 405 Main Street in downtown Belleville, is across from the Bayou Grill. Museum Quilt Show admission is \$3. The museum is open 3-7 p.m. on Tuesdays and noon-4 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays through Fridays.

Clerk Leon Wright's travels, expenses questioned by 2 trustees

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the March 6 meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, Trustee Paul White asked that the voucher list be pulled off the consent agenda and put on the regular agenda so it could be discussed.

Items on the consent agenda generally are approved without discussion.

When it came up for discussion, Trustee White said that he sees that \$600 is on that voucher list to be paid for registration for a trip by Clerk Leon Wright to Newport Beach, VA.

"We need a travel policy in place," Trustee White said. He has been asking for a revised policy for several months.

He said he understands under the present policy, the three full-time electeds (supervisor, treasurer, and clerk) approved the registration and transportation and hotel and meals.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said it is all in the budget, in the footnotes.

White said he wanted to know how this benefits Van Buren Township residents.

Treasurer Sharry Budd said White did approve "a paper." She said the board did approve Wright joining the International Clerks Association. She said White signed the approval.

Supervisor McNamara repeated it was a footnote in the budget they approved.

Trustee Sherry Frazier said that document looked like a letter when it came to the board table.

"I didn't know we were specific," Trustee

Frazier said.

She said whenever they are expending tax dollars it should be approved by the whole board.

Frazier said the travel policy shouldn't be approved by the "three electeds," of which Clerk Wright is one.

She said he spent over \$2,000 last year going to Montreal. He had one grant to pay part of the registration, but this time no grant has been applied for.

"This is money the taxpayer is paying for, ultimately," Frazier said.

"If he would have reported what ideas he got from going to Montreal, it would have been different," she said.

"Belonging to the international association is ... in my opinion, government officials taking vacations on tax payers dollars," Frazier said.

"I have explained..." Clerk Wright began.

"Explain again," Frazier cut in.

"Don't interrupt me. I didn't interrupt you," Wright said.

He said being on the international group he gets to make decisions on a regional level.

"I didn't ask you for what you learned in Lansing in the conference," Wright said. "We don't have time to sight-see. We're in the conference all day long... I've always gone on trips and I'll continue to go on trips and pay for them..."

Wright said they said they don't know how it benefits the township. He said they ask the same questions week after week.

He said the township budget is \$14-\$15

million and this is his tenth year in office. He said the township runs a very tight ship, budget-wise.

Trustee Reggie Miller said Trustees White and Frazier are entitled to their opinions, but they could have asked their questions at the work/study session.

"Why are we grandstanding in front of the public?" Trustee Miller asked.

The regular meetings are cablecast, but the work/study meetings have a very small audience and are not recorded for showing.

"I am not grandstanding," replied White. "I asked Clerk White straight out... I asked if Clerk Wright paid for the meals for his wife with a township credit card ... He said no, I will not show you... I asked you and you said you wouldn't show me."

"If you don't trust me that's your problem," Wright replied. "If you find out I haven't paid ..."

White said Wright's payment hasn't shown up on the financial records.

Frazier said for Wright to say "we run a tight budget" sounds like he is saying, "Frazier, don't worry about a \$600 conference, we have a \$14-\$15 million budget." She said there will be plane fare coming up, as well.

Frazier said when they study the voucher list they find Wright's passport was paid for by taxpayers' funds.

She said there was \$332 paid for meals for a three-day conference.

"I took it upon myself and asked him ... and he admitted to me," Frazier said. She said his wife had been at the conference and he paid for her meals on the township credit card.

"You are an experienced clerk," Frazier said, adding he should have paid for his meal with the township credit card and her meal with a private credit card.

Clerk Wright started to speak and Frazier asked Supervisor McNamara to give Wright a lecture on interrupting like McNamara gave her a lecture on interrupting the day before.

"I am not going to be bullied," Frazier said, adding she is fulfilling her fiduciary duty by asking questions for the residents.

"Clerk Wright goes to a conference every month or every other month," Frazier said.

"It's in the budget. It's been approved," Wright insisted.

Treasurer Sharry Budd made a motion to approve the voucher list and Miller seconded the motion. It was approved with Frazier and White voting no.

In other business at the March 6 meeting, the board:

- Heard Clerk Wright announce the township offices will be closed on March 23 so the employees can get emergency lessons;

- Heard Treasurer Budd report that the township got a notice from Wayne County that VBT was the first one to turn in balanced tax payments. She praised her deputy Sean Bellingham for his work, along with account clerks Jessica Shevovich and Kathy Adams.



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Venture Crew 231 from Trinity Episcopal Church went to Isle Royale last summer and they read their *Independent*.

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If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

Bike trail

(continued from page 1)

The township will figure out the rest of the route once they get started with the first link.

The Iron Bell Trail runs from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the Upper Peninsula, although many links through communities have yet to be built.

"We don't need to determine the whole route right now," said Lovell. "This route connects Belleville to a park along the Iron Belle Trail. The map online is based on preliminary information and is changing constantly.

"If we get to Riggs Park, we'll have a lot of different prospects," Lovell said.

McNamara said they would be looking for other grants to continue the trail and suggested it will take three years, at least, to complete that link.

McNamara said he believes the Huron River Drive route would be safe and there are lots of options.

"Belleville is our downtown. We should embrace it," McNamara said.

He said Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Wright and Best came up with the Zero Option to build a nice trail from Riggs Park to Belleville and he would push for Option Zero.

Best also had suggested setting up a committee like the lake ordinance work committee. Members would in work on a recommendation to the township board on the best route.

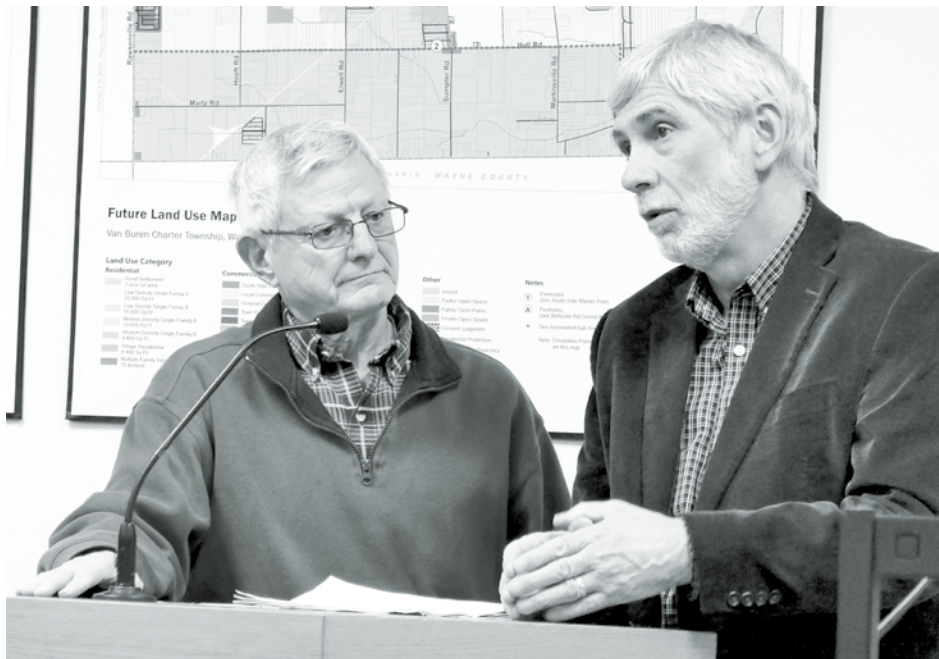
"I like Matt's idea for a subcommittee," said Trustee Reggie Miller. "I'm not quite sure on the best option right now."

Trustee Frazier suggested the township send out letters to township residents concerning the route.

"Mr. Ortner didn't know it was happening until he saw it on the front page of the *Independent*. Thank goodness, he reads the *Independent*."

"No matter how we go, we're going to make people unhappy," said Trustee Paul White. He said about 15 years ago when the township was looking at a hiking trail from the Metropark along Bemis to the ITC corridor, "The Bemis people were more unhappy than you are." He was addressing the E. Huron River Drive residents who opposed the first route option past their homes.

McNamara said that when they connect the Metropark with Belleville they will begin work on getting from Belleville to Washtenaw County and will probably continue out W. Huron River Dr.



Joe Monte, left, led those speaking against a route in front of their homes on East Huron River Drive. At right, Sam Lovell of PEA, Inc., explains details of the Iron Belle Trail.

Court Watching:

Jeremy Schuh waives exam, bound over on B&E of VBT building

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Jeremy Daniel Schuh, 37, waived his preliminary exam on charges of breaking and entering a building with intent to rob and assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer on Feb. 17 in Van Buren Township.

On Feb. 28, 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley bound Schuh over to circuit court for a March 7 arraignment on the information. Judge Oakley asked pretrial services to review the bond to see if they wanted to reduce it, as requested by Schuh's attorney.

Schuh was being held in the Wayne County Jail on \$50,000 cash bond, with tether. His court appointed attorney is Ashraf Al-Awamleh.

Schuh's co-defendant, Dallas Ray Blankenship, III, 22, is being held on the same charges and also is lodged in the Wayne County Jail on \$50,000 cash bond, with tether. His preliminary exam was set for March 7 at 34th District Court.

Blankenship's court-appointed attorney is Sam Chieerkian.

Anton Tarae Brooks

Anton Tarae Brooks, 25, told Judge Oakley he wanted to hire his own attorney, so his probable-cause conference was adjourned

until March 21. He is charged with fleeing police in a vehicle - fourth degree and driving while license suspended on Feb. 13 in Van Buren Township. His defense attorney had been appointed by the court.

Timothy William Camilli

Timothy William Camilli, 36, was not present and his attorney said Camilli said he had paperwork that showed he wasn't due to be at court until March 14. Judge Oakley explained that defendants are given two dates when they have to appear in court: one is for the probable cause conference, which was that day for him, and one for the preliminary exam, which was the following week.

Judge Oakley told Reginald Thomas, Camilli's court-appointed attorney, that his client had until Friday morning, March 2, to appear at the court or he would issue a bench warrant for his arrest.

Camilli is charged with unlawfully driving away a motor vehicle on Nov. 10 in Van Buren Township.

Michael Allen Jardine

Michael Allen Jardine, 36, was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and aggravated domestic violence on Feb. 13 in Sumpter Township. He was lodged in the Wayne County Jail on \$10,000/10% bond.

He was present in Judge Oakley's courtroom by video and although his court-appointed attorney Ashraf Al-Awamleh said his client wanted to waive his preliminary exam, Jardine said he didn't.

Judge Oakley sent the attorney to another courtroom so he could confer with his client confidentially by video.

When Jardine came back on video in Judge Oakley's courtroom, he said he is demanding his preliminary exam and Judge Oakley adjourned it to March 14.

Patrick Kevin Koontz

Patrick Kevin Koontz, 56, waived his preliminary exam and will be at circuit court March 14 for his arraignment on the information.

He was free after posting bond of \$15,000/10%. Koontz is charged with controlled substance-delivery/manufacture of marijuana, weapons felony firearm, brandishing a firearm in public, and firearms possession while under the influence in Van Buren Township on Dec. 11. His court-appointed attorney is David Shand.

Justin Starling Markowski

Justin Starling Markowski, 34, waived his preliminary exam and is due at circuit court on March 14 for an arraignment on the information.

He is charged with operating while intoxicated-third and driving while license suspended-second in Sumpter Township on April 15, 2017 He is free after posting bond of \$5,000/10%.

Devon Kaiser

Devon Kaiser was present before Judge Oakley for a motion hearing. He said he pled guilty to a misdemeanor charge of controlled substance. He said he had a concealed pistol license and Van Buren Township Police refuse to return his gun. He was in control of his gun when he was charged with a felony, but then it was reduced to a misdemeanor charge.

He said the weapon belonged to his father who passed way five years earlier and he has nothing else of his father's. He said one police lieutenant said he could have his gun back and another said he couldn't.

Judge Oakley said, besides all that, "Don't we still have the Second Amendment?" He granted and signed the motion to have VBT PD return Kaiser's weapon.



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Walkouts

(continued from page 1)

and Chloe Frye-Anthony, along with other students, were to read the names of those killed in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting on Feb. 14 in Florida.

The reading of the names was to be followed by a moment of silence. Student leaders encouraged their classmates to bring signs expressing personal views on gun violence and school safety.

The plan was for students to return to their classes immediately following the event. Teachers were to stay in their classrooms to teach those who didn't walk out and those who missed their classes would be expected to make up the work, Kudlak said.

Kudlak said the school administration supports participation in democratic activities, however, it is not openly advocating for or participating with these students.

In an email statement, Kudlak said, "The role of the staff at the walkout will be solely to keep our students safe. District staff members are in no way assisting in the implementation of the walkout, nor had any role in planning the event."

Students were not to be allowed to leave the school grounds during the protest and parents and outside visitors were not allowed to participate in the event.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the school board:

- Heard Kudlak report that there has been discussion for the last two to three months on purchasing barricades for school doors, if students and teachers have to stay in their rooms. He said there are three versions on the sheet from the security systems' company, depending on whether the door swings in or out or is an outside door. He said they have not counted the doors yet, but believe there are 400 doors which should cost \$40,000;

- Heard Kudlak report that Van Buren Township is helping the school district get the antidote Narcan, which counteracts an opioid overdose and will train all the administrators in its use. Kudlak said the district hasn't had a problem with that, but will get the training in use of the nose spray;

- Watched a presentation by Jane Stalmack and Mary Ellen Vago on the STEAM open house on Saturday, Feb. 3, that involved technology demonstrations from all the schools and attracted 300 children, adults, and staff. The next STEAM event is planned for Feb. 2, 2019;

- Watched a presentation by Scott Wilsey, director of Belleville New Tech, on what New Tech is doing, including several hundred podcasts, weekly posts, three students interviewed by National Public Radio, the ongoing Zombie 5K run, the Goose Feces project at Horizon Park, Project RED with the Michigan Farm Bureau, Relay for Life and oncology education, and other projects. The newest project is to go out to business owners and the community to ask what issues they are having that New Tech could help solve. He said they focus on project-based learning and want to have authentic projects;

- Heard board member Alison Bennett explain the 50 pages of pending board policy updates, many of which have to do with complying with state law and were recommended by NEOLA. This was the first reading. A second reading and vote will take place at a future meeting;

- Approved the resignations of non-instructional employees Connie Disney of McBride Middle School after 10.5 years of service as of March 5; and Linda Missant of Owen Intermediate after 19 years of service as of March 16;

- Approved the resignations of teachers Shanna Currie of BHS after four years of service as of March 9; Bernadette Garren-McDonald of Owen after less than one year

as of March 16; and Elizabeth Wathen of Owen after 1.5 years of service as of Feb. 28;

- Heard Financial Director Shareen Barker announce that they put out more than 450 letters concerning payments to employees and former employees for the deductions taken from pay that later proved illegal. She said they are about half done; and

- Heard Human Resources Director Abdul Madyun say the district is preparing for the Michigan State Police audit of fingerprints. He said in every district audited so far the MSP has found something not right and the district is trying to get everything ready for them. He also said he is working with the union on a tentative school calendar for the next school year and they are trying to get rid of some of the half days. He said because of the common calendar, next year spring break will be two weeks past Good Friday.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Throughout the month of March, closing March 28** – 22nd-annual March Quilt Show at the Belleville Area Museum. Museum is open 3-7 p.m. on Tuesdays and noon-4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. There are 150 quilts on display. Entry \$3 for those who are not members of the Historical Society.

- **Saturday, March 17** -- St. Patrick's Day Dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. (or until it is all gone) at the Van Buren Eagles #3996, 9961 Beck Road. Cost \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Entertainment. For tickets call the club at (734) 699-8836 or Joyce Rochowiak at (313) 304-0474.

- **Sunday, March 18** – Kentucky Travelers will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

- **Thursday, March 22** -- No meeting of the Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club tonight. Everyone invited to Friday's Chili Cook-Off (see below).

- **Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24** – Robotics competition between 40 teams at Belleville High School main gymnasium. Free admittance to the public.

- **Friday, March 23** -- Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club will hold its annual Chili Cook-Off from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the UAW 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Road, Ypsilanti. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will be a special guest, along with candidates for many state offices. Most tickets are \$10, with special rates for seniors, veterans, and children. Information: (313) 971-5027 or terree22@gmail.com.

- **Sunday, March 25** – Breakfast Fund Raiser to benefit the Van Buren Eagles Building Fund. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Van Buren Eagles #3996, 9961 Beck Road. Biscuits & sausage gravy, \$6; scrambled eggs & sausage, \$6; combo platter scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, and sausage, \$10. Info: (734) 699-8836.

- **Sunday, March 25** – Southern Echo will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

- **Monday, March 26** – State Rep. Joe Bellino, R-Monroe, will hold coffee hours from 9-10 a.m. at Biggby, 26614 Telegraph Rd. in Flat Rock; 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the South Rockwood Library, 5676 Carleton Rockwood Rd. in Carleton; and noon to 1 p.m. at Tim Horton's, 404 S. Monroe St. in Monroe. Talk to him about your local and state concerns. Rep. Bellino's district includes Sumpter Township.

- **Wednesday, April 11** – Belleville Area Women's Club annual Spring Fashion Show at Woodlands of Van Buren, 39670 Ecorse Rd. Tickets \$40. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., fashion show at 8 p.m., with fashions provided by Dress Barn.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

Notice of Advertisement

Seeking Demolition Bids. The Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, MI will receive bids for the demolition, removal, and disposal of all structures and debris at **10142 Wheeler Street (Parcel Number V125-83-053-03-0587-000)**. Bid forms and demolition work specifications are available at the Office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday or on the Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org. Bids shall be submitted to the Clerk's Office by **12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Thursday, March 29, 2018** and will be publicly opened immediately following the closing of the bid. Interested contractors may contact Ron Akers, Director of Planning & Economic Development at (734) 699-8913 to schedule a Pre-Bid Meeting. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids and reserves the right not to award a contract. Van Buren Township is an equal opportunity employer. This project will be funded with federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Posted and Published: March 15, 2018

Belleville Area District Library Public Notice

REQUEST FOR SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS

New Belleville Area District Library: 167 Fourth St., Belleville, MI 48111

This project is a new 31,401 SF ground up, 2-story library in downtown Belleville. Construction begins spring/summer 2018.

Bid categories at this time include: Earthwork and Utilities, Site Concrete, Fencing and Flagpoles.

Bid Packs, Plans and Specifications are available electronically through Construction Manager O'Neal Construction, Inc., 525 W. William, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Questions call (734) 769-0770 or email: agasser@onealconstruction.com

Refer to instructions to bidders regarding, all bids are due on Tuesday, 3/27/18 @ 2 pm and required to be in a sealed envelope deliver to: Belleville Area District Library 167 Fourth St., Belleville, MI 48111

A bid walk-through on Tuesday, 3/20/18 @ 9 AM will be held at the existing Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth St., Belleville, MI 48111

Publish: March 15, 2018; March 22, 2018

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES MARCH 6, 2018

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller and Trustee White. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Public Services Director Best, Executive Assistant Selman, Recreation Director Wright and an audience of twenty-five (25).

Supervisor McNamara requested the agenda be amended removing Consent Business item #6 [Voucher List of March 6, 2018] and placing it as New Business item #1.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Frazier moved, Miller seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. [Work Study Session minutes of February 20, 2018, Closed Session minutes of February 20, 2018, Board Meeting minutes of February 20, 2018, Prepaid List of February 22, 2018, Prepaid List of March 1, 2018 and approval of the attorney recommendation in the settlement of Wayne County Circuit Case No. 17-008615-NI, Anna Wambaugh V. Van Buren Township]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Miller moved, Frazier seconded to open the Public Hearing at 7:05 to receive public comment on the Iron Belle Trail Project. Motion Carried.

Public Services Director Best outlined the Iron Belle Project and the possible routes identified. When completed the Iron Belle Trail will be the longest state trail in the nation connecting Belle Isle in Detroit to Iron Wood in the Upper Peninsula. It will consist of 1,221 miles of hiking trail (72% completed) and 798 miles of non-motorized trail (62% completed). The project incorporates a safe connection from Downtown Belleville to Lower Huron Metro Park and requires a 25% contribution of funding by the Township. Grants have been identified and will be applied for to cover the required 25% funding. A public informational meeting was held at Belleville High School on January 31, 2018 at which attendees identified route options and expressed pros and cons of each. Three of the options were discarded by the Board because they would require right of way access from the railroad which has been denied. The remaining options will be further reviewed by the Board. Director Best proposed a new option that would address the first segment of the trail and allow the Board to consider moving forward with the grant application submission. The segment would commence at Edgemont Dr. along the southside of E. Huron River Dr. and end at Riggs Park. Moving forward he proposed forming a Van Buren Township Trails workgroup consisting of residents and moderated by Township Staff (Parks and Public Services) who would provide a route recommendation to the Board. PEA Inc. Engineer Sam Lovell was present to answer questions from the audience.

Audience members comments included: support of the Iron Belle Trail, safety concerns with Option #1, easements, setbacks, path width, ownership of Edison Lake Rd., E. Huron River Drive speed limit, speed limit enforcement, traffic accidents at s-curves on E. Huron River Drive, mailbox location/relocation, damaged trees, damaged fire hydrants, damaged fences, bridge integrity, bridge structural assessment,

utility location/relocation, utility connection responsibility, path crossing safety on E. Huron River Drive, road conditions, lack of support for Option #1, support for alternative routes, and eighteen wheeler traffic. Two letters to the Board were read or summarized by audience members who had submitted them in advance of the Public Hearing. Questions posed by audience members were addressed by PEA Engineer Lovell.

Board members commented on: The importance of public involvement in the process of determining the trail route, thanked the audience for participating in the process, encouraged continued participation, support for the formation of a trails workgroup, support for moving forward with the initial path segment on the southside of E. Huron River Dr. from Edgemont Dr. to Riggs Park, discussed pros and cons of various routes and emphasized the importance of safety when it comes to determining the final route.

White moved, Miller seconded to closed the Public Hearing at 8:38 p.m. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Martin moved, Frazier seconded to approve Resolution 2018-2 authorizing the grant submission to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to cover a segment of the trail from Edgemont Dr. to Riggs Park. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the Voucher List of March 6, 2018. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Martin and Miller. Nays: Frazier and White. Motion Carried. Trustees Frazier and White expressed concern over Clerk Wright's registration fee to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks conference out of state. Both indicated their previous request, and continued desire, to have further discussion and review of the travel policy. Trustee Frazier questioned the benefit to the community in attending an international Clerks' conference and the Clerk's expenses associated with past and future travel. Trustee Miller, Treasurer Budd and Supervisor McNamara confirmed their support of the Clerk's Regional position and that expenses associated with the position were discussed and approved during the budget process. Clerk Wright reminded Board members that he was elected Regional Director of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks last year and will be installed in this position during the conference in question. His travel plans and expenses were discussed and approved during the budget process and that each Board member had signed a letter of support for him as a Regional Director. Clerk Wright maintained that for the past ten years he has followed all policies and procedures relating travel and in the performance of his duties and all expenditures have been thoroughly reviewed on an annual basis by the Township auditing firm.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Township administrative offices will be closed to the public on Friday March 23, 2018 so that staff can participate in emergency preparedness training, Van Buren Township was featured in the March issue of the Michigan Township Association Focus magazine., Trustee Frazier said she had submitted the information for publication at no cost to the Township, the Township will host the Conference of Western Wayne on Friday March 9, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. open to all residents, the Recreation Department will host the teen Flashlight Egg Hunt on Saturday March 24th from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Quirk Park, Summer Camp registration is now open, Fire Chief Brow is assisting the Van Buren Public Schools in obtaining a grant

for Narcan and will be providing training in its use, the 22nd annual Quilt Show is going on at the Belleville Area Museum Tuesday 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. and Wednesday through Saturday noon-4:00 p.m. and Van Buren Township was first in submittal of their 2017 tax roll for settlement with the County. Treasurer Budd thanked Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham and Account Clerks Jessica Shevrovich and Kathy

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Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 6:30 p.m. 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 Minutes

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Morgan at 6:42 pm. Roll call: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk E. Hurst, and Treasurer P. Morgan, Trustees: Oddy, LaPorte, Barnes and Swinson. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hadyniak and approximately 55 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only: Public comment began at 6:43 p.m. Eight (8) public comments were received. Ended 7:01 p.m.

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Swinson to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2018. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to accept the Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes of July 27, 2017. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to accept Planning Commission Minutes of December 14, 2017. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the Warrants totaling \$1,498,336.07. Roll call vote: Yes: Swinson, Oddy, LaPorte, Barnes, P. Morgan, J. Morgan and Hurst. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Water & Sewer Report-P. Morgan: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to Receive and File the Water & Sewer Report. Motion carried.

8. Police Report-Luke: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to Receive and File the Police Report. Motion carried.

9. Building/Ordinance Report-Barnes: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to Receive and File the Building/Ordinance Report. Motion carried.

10. Fire Report-Januszyk: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to Receive and File the Fire Report. Motion carried.

11. Treasurer's Report-P. Morgan: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to Receive and File the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

12. Supervisor Report-J. Morgan:

A. All roads within the Township are maintained by Wayne County and the Township isn't allowed to plow. Wayne County number to report on the roads is 1-888-762-3273.

B. Republic Waste Thanked all the residents for their patience on rubbish pick during last week's storm.

C. Township Hall will be CLOSED on Monday, February 19th in observation of Presidents Day. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the Supervisor Report. Motion carried.

13. Attorney Report-Young:

A. Meeting with Republic Waste on Thursday, February 15th to negotiate new contract.

B. Friday, February 16th will be meeting with the District Library to review the lease on the Satellite location within Sumpter Township.

C. Asked the Township Board to approve payment of the monies owed to the respective parties and in the amounts set forth in Judge Allen's Consent Judgement on January 22, 2018.

Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the disbursement as described in the letter. Motion carried.

14. Board Response:

A. Treasurer P. Morgan gave her opinion on a detailed description of the Fact Finding Committees outcome packet that was given to the Board members.

Adams for all their assistance.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Martin seconded to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Publish: March 15, 2018

B. Trustee Swinson asked how many of the Township/Cities have opted-in.

15. New Business:

A. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve the installation of the new furnace at a price of \$4,380.00 to be located at the Senior Center office. Motion carried.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Barnes to approve resolution 2018-06 for the rate increase on water, sewer and rubbish. Motion carried.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve precinct #5 to be relocated at Sumpter Community Center activity room. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve the contract for I.T. Right to start service as the computer technology provider for Sumpter Township, Senior Center and Fire Department. Starting April 1, 2018. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Hurst, supported by LaPorte to approve hiring Sonya Ingle as paid on-call firefighter. Contingent upon her successful completion of the required physical and drug screening. Motion carried.

F. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve the 2018 CDBG allocations as such: \$7,304.00 for administration, \$10,957.00 for Senior Services, \$44,783.00 for Senior Center Improvements and \$10,000.00 for Demolition. Motion carried.

G. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve a roll call vote to opt-in to MMFLA allowing 5-Class A (500), 5-Class B (1000), 5-Class C (1500), Safety-3, Secure Transport-3, Provisioning Center-2, Processors-0. In the Industrial, Agriculture and Commercial zoning. Roll call vote: Yes: Barnes and P. Morgan. Nay: LaPorte, J. Morgan, Hurst, Oddy and Swinson. Motion failed.

*H. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to opt-out of MMFLA with a roll call vote. Roll call vote: Nay: Barnes and P. Morgan. Yes: LaPorte, J. Morgan, Hurst, Oddy and Swinson. Motion carried. Attorney Young to draft resolution for opting-out of MMFLA.

* Added to agenda during February 13, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.

16. Announcements:

A. Chili cook-off will be held at noon Friday, February 16th with proceeds go towards the community outreach program.

B. Trustee Swinson stated the BYC held a Polar Plunge on February 10th for Muscular Dystrophy raising roughly \$38,000.00.

C. Black History Event will be held on Friday, February 23 at 1:00 pm at the Community Center, cost is \$5.00 per person.

D. Happy Valentine's Day from Treasurer P. Morgan

17. Open Floor:

18. Adjournment: Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:57 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Hurst, Clerk

Sumpter Township

Certification

I, Esther Hurst, Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the following is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Township of Sumpter Board of Trustees on February 13, 2018 at 6:42 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that the said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Esther Hurst, Clerk

Published: March 15, 2018

Court Watching:

Sean McKeehan bound over to circuit court on weapons charges

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Sean Eugene McKeehan, 28, was bound over to circuit court on two weapons charges when he waived his preliminary exam before 34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green on March 7.

He is due at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice at 9 a.m. March 14 for his arraignment on the information.

His court-appointed defense attorney asked Judge Green to reduce his client's bond from the \$50,000/10% set at his arraignment. McKeehan remains in the Wayne County Jail, unable to raise the bond.

The defense attorney said his client had only one prior reckless driving ticket on his record. He served in the military and was at the University of Michigan Hospital for an evaluation. The attorney said McKeehan has no competency issues and was no threat to the community.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Phemie Longnecker said because of his threats reported by police [to do a mass shooting and then kill himself], he is a danger to the community.

Judge Green continued the bond, but referred McKeehan to pretrial services for a bond review.

McKeehan reportedly is suffering from post traumatic stress disorder and may be able to be transferred to a Veterans' Court, police said.

McKeehan is charged with weapons-firearms-short barreled shotgun/rifle and felony firearm on Feb. 21 in Van Buren Township.

Dallas Ray Blankenship

Dallas Ray Blankenship, 22, waived his preliminary exam on charges of breaking and entering of a building with intent and assaulting / resisting / obstructing a police officer on Feb. 17 in Van Buren Township.

He is due at circuit court at 9 a.m. March 14 for his arraignment on the information.

He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail on \$50,000 cash bond. His court-appointed attorney is Samuel Churikian.

Blankenship's co-defendant Jeremy Daniel Schuh also waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court on Feb. 28. He has the same charges and bond as Blankenship.

Timothy William Camilli

Timothy William Camilli, 36, demanded holding his preliminary exam set for 10 a.m., March 14 before 34th District Court Judge David Parrott. He is charged with unauthorized driving away of a motor vehicle in Van Buren Township on Nov. 10, 2017. Camilli's court-appointed attorney is Reginald Thomas. Camilli is free on \$1,000 personal recognizance bond.

Camilli's co-defendant is Jennifer Kind, 37, who has the same charge on the same day and is yet to be arrested.

Randy Davon Gray

Randy Davon Gray, 46, waived his preliminary exam on charges of operating while intoxicated-third and driving while license suspended-second on Sept. 10, 2017 in the city of Belleville.

He is scheduled to be at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on March 21 for an arraignment on the information.

Gray is free after posting \$5,000/10% bond. His court-appointed attorney is David Lankford.

Kevin Michael Jarvis

Kevin Michael Jarvis, 32, had his probable cause conference adjourned until March 21. Jarvis is charged with child abuse-third degree, assaulting / resisting / obstructing a police officer, and domestic violence on Feb. 23 in Van Buren Township.

Collin Daniel Murphy

Collin Daniel Murphy, 23, has his preliminary exam set for March 28 on a charge of criminal sexual conduct-second degree (relationship) on Feb. 25 in Van Buren Township. He is free after posting his bond of \$20,000/10%.

Raymond Taylor

Raymond Taylor, 47, had his probable

(continued on page 22)

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville Regular City Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 20, 2018

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Council Member Smith	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present
3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS	
Presentations	None

Council follow up list

Council Member Marcotte stated that the Capital Improvement Plan needs a target date. Mayor Conley mentioned the media had interviewed her specifically regarding the Doane's Landing seawall project. In response, DPS Director Rick Rutherford stated that he will be sending out bids again and anticipates a bid opening at the end of March or early April. Council Member Fielder stated that he wanted contracted services added to the follow-up list.

Citizen Comments

Patricia Miles, a member of the Chippewa Tribe, stated that she finds the statue of LaSalle at 5 Points to be offensive and asked the Council to consider taking it down.

Mike Renaud inquired if Harbour Pointe had ongoing maintenance planned and whether the snow emergency ordinance, specific to cars being left on the street, was being enforced.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Loria, second by Fielder to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Marcotte, second by Fielder to approve the regular City Council meeting minutes of February 5th, 2018 with one correction.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Motion by Fielder, second by Marcotte to open a public hearing on the Parks & Recreation Master Plan at 7:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Parks & Recreation Chair Jeff Vernon gave a summary of the Commission's discussion and review of the most recent Master Plan, adding that the intent is to use it to apply for grant funding, adding that he thought public/private partnerships would be important for success. Kelly Bates asked if the DDA would fund improvements, and Council Member Fielder stated that the same Master Plan will be discussed at the DDA meeting the following evening.

Motion by Loria, second by Fielder to close the public hearing at 8:42 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 2010-005 – Medical Marihuana

Motion by Fielder, second by Marcotte to adopt Resolution No. 18-018 authorizing Administration to advertise for a public hearing on March 19th to receive public comments on repealing 2010-005, the medical marihuana permitting ordinance. The hearing will be held during the City Council's regular business meeting at 7:30 pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. FY 2016-17 Audit Results

Jay Wilde, Alan C. Young Associates, gave a brief presentation on the FY 2016-17 audit, and stated that the City received an unmodified opinion, the highest level of assurance given by an external audit firm.

B. Police Vehicle Equipment Bid

Motion by Fielder, second by Marcotte to adopt Resolution No. 18-019 accepting the bid from Supreme Detailing & Accessories of Canton for \$13,986 and authorizing Administration to release funds for payment and installation.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Mayor's Appointments to Boards & Commissions
Motion by Marcotte, second by Loria to adopt Resolution No. 18-020 endorsing the appointment of Juli Balestrieri to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Motion by Fielder, second by Marcotte to adopt Resolution No. 18-021 endorsing the Parks & Recreation Master Plan with the caveat that Administration ensure that demographics and statistics be update to the most recent data available.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. City Parks Evaluation

Per Mayor Conley, Jeff Vernon previously presented the Commission's findings on the City's parks during his comments in the public hearing for the Parks Master Plan. The DDA will also review this written parks evaluation at its February 21st meeting.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Marcotte, second by Loria to approve Resolution No. 18-022 for accounts payable and purchases over \$500.00 for a total of \$207,008.87.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Loria, Second by Marcotte to adjourn meeting at 9:03 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Approved: March 5, 2018

Published: March 15, 2018

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

Charter Township of Van Buren Annual Cemetery Cleaning Notice

The Department of Public Services will be conducting its annual spring cleaning at all Township cemeteries.

Spring cleaning will begin

March 26, 2018 and run through March 29, 2018

Receptacles placed on graves such as flowerpots, religious items and similar objects will be discarded if not removed by March 25, 2018

New items may be displayed beginning March 30, 2018

Van Buren Township provides maintenance for the following cemeteries:

Denton - 49780 Cross St. (Michigan Avenue and Denton Road)

Soop - 49250 Denton Road (South I-94 Service Drive and Denton Road)

Tyler - 39820 Tyler Road (Tyler and Hannan Roads)

Otisville - 41875 Riggs Road

For additional information contact

The Department of Public Services 734.699.8925

Leon Wright
Township Clerk

Posted 2-22-2018

Published 3-1-2018

3-15-2018

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 446 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for the past week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, March 4:
0011 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler/Parkwood
0059 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Ormond Dr.
0118 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
0145 -- noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
0155 -- 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0308 -- warrant arrest, Ann Arbor
0423 -- noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
0823 -- noise complaint, Greenbriar Dr.
0932 -- indecent exposure, Sugarbush
0934 -- domestic, Ash Dr.
1400 -- traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.

1419 -- property damage accident, Haggerty/Bemis
1639 -- larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2018 -- threat, Savage Rd.
2033 -- property damage accident, Ecorse/Beck
2237 -- traffic offense, Mott
2257 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Mott/Denton
2319 -- suspicious activity report, Lake Villa Dr.

Monday, March 5:
0156 -- warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
0445 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty/I-94
0843 -- property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Van Born Rd.
0925 -- domestic, Belleville Rd.
1105 -- larceny, Lincoln St.
1146 -- road hazard, EB I-94/Belleville
1226 -- miscellaneous complaint, Bemis Rd.
1312 -- larceny from auto, Churchill Dr.
1342 -- domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1347 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Jackson Ct.
1426 -- malicious destruction of property, EB I-94 / Rawsonville Rd.
1506 -- 911 welfare check, Mida
1613 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1721 -- property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
1755 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Venetian Ave. / Belleville Rd.
1811 -- warrant arrest, Rawsonville/I-94
1925 -- retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2031 -- domestic, Brandi Dr.
2121 -- suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River
2331 -- warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.

Tuesday, March 6:
0741 -- abandoned auto, WB I-94/Hannan
0841 -- property damage accident, Country Walk Blvd.
0855 -- 911 welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0914 -- larceny from auto, Haggerty Rd.
1049 -- fraud, Linda Vista Ct.
1052 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Jeannette Ave. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1115 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hampton Dr. / Revere Dr.
1316 -- larceny, Sumpter Rd./Bemis Rd.
1357 -- breaking & entering, Haggerty Rd.
1549 -- 911 welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
1636 -- personal injury accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
1841 -- domestic, Ormond Dr.
1900 -- domestic, W. Columbia Ave.
2047 -- leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.
2109 -- larceny, Hamilton St.
2154 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
2217 -- noise complaint, Colony Ln.
2352 -- family trouble, Holly Ln.

Wednesday, March 7:
0708 -- larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1412 -- private property impound, Van Born Rd.
1429 -- animal complaint, Martz Rd.
1817 -- PPO violation, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1905 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse/Jeremy
1908 -- hospice death, Buchanan St.
2016 -- disorderly, Quirk
2029 -- assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
2056 -- juvenile complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2125 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park
2143 -- family trouble, Riggs Rd.

Thursday, March 8:
0004 -- civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
0105 -- road hazard, Rawsonville Rd./S. Grove St.
0128 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Peninsular/Vista

0136 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville
0216 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd. / Rolan Meadows Dr.
0230 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Lacy Dr. / Jeremy Rd.
0329 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Park Estates Dr.
0413 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
0608 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Lighthouse Dr.
0755 -- disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0902 -- issue gun permit, Tyler Rd.
0911 -- fraud, Samuel Barton Dr.
0958 -- fraud, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1002 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hanover Dr.
1034 -- property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1159 -- civil matter, Van Born
1243 -- civil matter, Pinewood Ln.
1344 -- assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1408 -- mental subject, Clayton Rd.
1415 -- property damage accident, Belleville
1515 -- property damage accident, N. I-94 Service
1550 -- property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1708 -- fraud, E. Walden Dr.
1715 -- domestic, Ormond Dr.
1727 -- mental subject, Belleville Rd.
1750 -- property damage accident, Rawsonville
1805 -- leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Country Walk Blvd.
1947 -- animal complaint, Lancaster Dr. / Fairfield
2106 -- domestic, Montague Ave.
2122 -- civil matter, Hanover Dr.
2354 -- 911 welfare check, Lacy Dr.

Friday, March 9:
0010 -- malicious destruction of property, Village Green Ln.
0114 -- noise complaint, Aspen
0343 -- overdose, Denton Rd.
0819 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.
1009 -- civil matter, Hanover Dr.
1020 -- civil matter, Van Born
1025 -- malicious destruction of property, Oak Blvd.
1132 -- assist other dept., Van Born Rd.
1133 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park
1149 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1215 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Peninsular Dr.
1253 -- malicious destruction of property, Edwards
1358 -- civil matter, Riggs Rd.
1444 -- fraud, Bradley Dr.
1619 -- animal complaint, Savage Rd./Haggerty
1627 -- animal complaint, Elwell Rd.
1653 -- civil matter, Lighthouse Dr.
1659 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville
1658 -- disorderly, Jackson St.
1812 -- animal complaint, Madison Dr.
1836 -- breaking & entering, Haggerty Rd.
1846 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Jackson St.
2042 -- animal complaint, Walden Blvd./Tyler Rd.
2229 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Edison Lake
2242 -- suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service

Saturday, March 10:
0023 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville
0129 -- civil matter, Sumpter Rd.
0133 -- assault & battery, WB I-94 / rest area
0300 -- malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0453 -- domestic, N. Ponderosa Trl.
0831 -- abandoned auto, Sadie Ln.
0847 -- property damage accident, N. I-94 Service
0943 -- missing person, Quirk Rd.
1031 -- sexual assault, Borgman Ave.
1124 -- warrant arrest, Ingham Co.
1354 -- trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1355 -- family trouble, Old Michigan Rd.
1406 -- larceny from auto, Hayes St.
1422 -- malicious destruction of property, E. Walden Dr.
1524 -- breaking & entering, Clayton Rd.
1551 -- abandoned auto, McBride Ave./Beck Rd.
1616 -- juvenile complaint, McBride Ave./Jackson
1728 -- assist citizen, W. Columbia
1837 -- breaking & entering, Ecorse Rd.
1958 -- family trouble, Savage Rd.
2006 -- domestic, Haggerty Rd.
2035 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Riggs/power lines
2141 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Marina Dr.
2149 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Daisy Blvd.
2301 -- noise complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl. / Sugarbush Ln.

Also on this week's log are 151 traffic stops with 52 of those on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, March 4:
0030 -- warrant arrest, WB I-94/Baker Rd.
0336 -- motorist assist, Main St./Huron River Dr.
1143 -- property damage accident, Charles St.
2216 -- property check, Belle Villa Blvd.

Monday, March 5:
0240 -- warrant arrest, N. Telegraph Rd.
0543 -- assist other dept., I-275/State 14 Hwy.
1858 -- vehicle lockout, Menlo Park Dr.
2329 -- fraud, Main St.

Tuesday, March 6:
0151 -- warrant arrest, Main St.
0604 -- assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1123 -- missing person, Carmell St.
1205 -- dumping complaint, Henry St.
1308 -- repossession, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1738 -- welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1852 -- vehicle lockout, W. Columbia Ave.
2150 -- intrusion alarm, S. Aberdeen Ct.

Wednesday, March 7:
0307 -- assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1215 -- property damage accident, Sumpter/Owen
2151 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Victorian Ln.
2323 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.

Thursday, March 8:
0002 -- civil matter, S. Aberdeen Ct.
0657 -- intrusion alarm, S. Industrial Park Dr.
2145 -- assist other dept., Carmell St.

Friday, March 9:
0236 -- assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
0706 -- assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
1603 -- disorderly, Church St.
2005 -- operating while intoxicated, Sumpter Rd.

/ Owen St.
2223 -- intrusion alarm, S. Aberdeen Ct.

Saturday, March 10:
0041 -- warrant arrest, Main St.
0232 -- welfare check, South St./E. Davis St.
0801 -- intrusion alarm, S. Industrial Park Dr.
0934 -- disorderly, South St.
1153 -- vehicle lockout, South St.
1722 -- suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia
2321 -- suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St.
Also on this week's log are 58 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, March 4:
0340 -- fire dept. assist, New Mexico
0837 -- 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1014 -- animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1242 -- property damage accident, Rawsonville / Willow
1356 -- civil dispute, 46000 bl. Reed Rd.
1744 -- disorderly person, Greenmeadow
1904 -- fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1907 -- harassment complaint, Carriage Ln.
2024 -- citizen assist, 9400 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2234 -- civil dispute, 27000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2339 -- fire dept., 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Monday, March 5:
0655 -- civil dispute, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0941 -- animal complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1114 -- alarm, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1322 -- animal complaint, 27000 bl. Sherwood
1337 -- citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1638 -- fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd
1815 -- suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Martinsville
1825 -- runaway juvenile, Rustic Ln.
1829 -- mental health commitment, Rustic Ln.
1935 -- suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Reed Rd.
2304 -- noise complaint, Country Club Blvd.

Tuesday, March 6:
0931 -- subpoena service, Carriage Ln.
1103 -- warrant arrest pick up, out of township
1142 -- fire dept. assist, Brookview
1148 -- suspicious incident, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
1258 -- animal complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1650 -- fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1959 -- suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2101 -- subpoena service, Wyoming

Wednesday, March 7:
0033 -- warrant arrest pick up, 9300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0412 -- warrant arrest pick up, out of township

0735 -- suspicious person, Texas
0924 -- warrant arrest pick up, Bemis/Elwell
0938 -- fraud complaint, New Mexico
1105 -- 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1142 -- 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1143 -- civil dispute, Carriage Ln.
1319 -- suspicious vehicle, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1542 -- fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2056 -- fire dept. assist, Washington
2106 -- disorderly person, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.

Thursday, March 8:
0746 -- fight, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1329 -- civil dispute, Country Club Blvd.
1403 -- harassment complaint, Brookview
1419 -- animal complaint, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1523 -- traffic hazard, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1640 -- fire dept. assist, Creekside
1828 -- personal injury accident, Sumpter/Arkona

Friday, March 9:
0221 -- alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0920 -- larceny, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1117 -- animal complaint, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1253 -- 911 hang up, New Mexico
1533 -- abandoned vehicle, Rawsonville / Oakville

Waltz
1648 -- reckless driver, Karr/Willow
1735 -- animal complaint, Savage/Bemis

Saturday, March 10:
0248 -- suspicious vehicle, Bemis/Haggerty
0419 -- alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1106 -- civil dispute, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1425 -- fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1506 -- reckless driver, Kozma/Wilnot
1643 -- animal complaint, 19000 bl. Martinsville

Also on this week's log are five follow-up investigations, 27 miscellaneous details, 101 patrol checks, and 52 traffic stops.

Court watching (continued from page 21)

cause conference adjourned until March 28 on a charge of larceny by conversion (more than \$1,000, but less than \$20,000) on May 2, 2017 in Van Buren Township. He is free on \$500 personal recognizance bond. His court-appointed attorney is John O. Knappmann.

Richard Garland McWhirter

Richard Garland McWhirter, 43, is due for his preliminary exam on March 14 on a charge of unauthorized driving away of a motor vehicle on Jan. 7 in Van Buren Township. His court-appointed attorney is Regina Triplett. He is free on \$5,000 personal recognizance bond.

Derek Williams-Ryan Jones

Derek Williams-Ryan Jones, 26, waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for a March 14 arraignment on the information.

He is charged with three counts of possession of a weapon by a felon, three counts of carrying a concealed weapon, three counts of felony firearm, and one count of driving while license suspended on Jan. 29 in Sumpter Township.

His retained attorney is David Stevens. He is free on \$10,000 personal recognizance bond.

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BREAK-INS CAUGHT ON CAMERA



Photo courtesy of Bill Walters

The Belleville High School Robotics team competed in a FIRST Robotics Competition on March 10 on the west side of the state and came away with a gold medal. At Monday's school board meeting it was explained. Parent Angela Mears said the BHS team came out as 29th of 40 teams, but the BHS team was chosen as part of an alliance of teams and that alliance won a gold medal for the work of the three teams together. School Supt. Pete Kudlak added that the BHS team had a setback in the first round and it had to stop and clean up before it could continue. He said they had to pick up the parts that had fallen off. After they put it back together, they "rallied the troops" and won the next three contests, he said. Another FIRST Robotics Competition is scheduled for March 23 and 24 at BHS.

Rescue Groups Welcome!
Call for Special Prices.

7 LOCATIONS
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EMERGENCY CARE

Animal Care Hospital

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ALL BAYER PRODUCTS 5% OFF With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	MICROCHIP I.D. ONLY \$29 With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	\$15 EXAM NEW PATIENTS ONLY With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	10% OFF ALL SERVICES Excludes \$15 Rabies & \$12 Vaccines. Only valid at Belleville location. With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	HEARTWORM TEST \$15 with purchase of 6 month Prevention. \$10 with 1 year Prevention purchase. With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18
CAT SURGERY SPAY \$189 NEUTER .. \$139 w/Declaw \$269 (Fronts only) w/Declaw \$219 (Fronts only) Must be up to date on shots. Includes pain package, antibiotics and e-collar. More options available at additional charge. FELINE DENTAL \$179 DECLAW 2 Paws \$169 4 Paws \$219 Includes pain package, antibiotics and e-collar. More options available at additional charge. Over 5 years old presurgical is mandatory With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	DOG & CAT RABIES VACCINE ONLY \$15 All Other Vaccines \$12 With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18		DOG SURGERY SPAY \$279 NEUTER .. \$179 Must be up to date on shots. Includes pain package, antibiotics and e-collar. More options available at additional charge. DENTAL ... \$229 Includes pain package. Antibiotics and extractions at additional charge. With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	
CAT PACKAGES #3 \$129 • Exam • Distemper • Bordetella • Rabies 1 Yr. • Fecal • Leukemia • Feline Aids / Leukemia Combo Test #4 \$79 • Exam • Distemper • Feline Aids / Leukemia Combo Test • Fecal • Deworming #5 \$59 • Exam • Distemper • Bordetella • Rabies 1 Yr. • Fecal With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	DOG/CAT PACKAGES #1 \$27 • Wellness Exam • Distemper • Rabies 1Yr. #2 \$39 • Wellness Exam • Distemper • Bordetella • Rabies 1Yr. With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18		DOG PACKAGES #3 \$79 • Wellness Exam • Distemper • Bordetella • Lepto • Fecal • Heartworm Test • Rabies 1 Yr. #4 \$24 • Wellness Exam • Distemper • Bordetella (Kennel Cough) #5 \$69 • Wellness Exam • Distemper • Bordetella • Heartworm Test • Rabies 1Yr. #6 \$59 • Wellness Exam • Distemper • Bordetella • Lepto • Rabies 1Yr. With coupon. Coupons cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 4-30-18	



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17 ACRES 50X80 POLE BARN



41860 WILLOW, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

CUSTOM BUILT 5 Bedroom, 4 1/2 Bath Country Home offering the Highest Quality of Amenities. 3 Fireplaces, Finished Basement, 3 Car Attached Garage, 50x80 Pole Barn and Gently placed on 17 Acres. Offered at \$550,000

POLE BARN



10047 WILLIS ROAD, WILLIS

NEW CARPET AND PAINT. FRESH SQUEEZED VALUE. 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Oak Kitchen, Open Dining Area, Basement, Deck, LARGE POLE BARN, Paved Street and More \$150,000

2,600+ SQUARE FEET



28525 KARR, SUMPTER

SPRAULING BRICK COUNTRY RANCH featuring Huge Family Room with Fireplace, Open Kitchen, Hardwood Floors Everywhere, Large Master Bedroom with Master Bath, Impressive Walkout, Family Room, Huge Recreation Room. 5 Acres AND Pole Barn. \$199,900

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13490 CHRISTINA, VAN BUREN

THIS FORMER MODEL HOME only gets More Beautiful! Award Winning 3 Bedroom 3 Bath End Unit Condo. Open Floor Concept has Vaulted Ceilings, Beautiful Wood Floors everywhere, High End Kitchen Cabinets, Granite Counters, Large Master Suite, Loft Space, Overlooking Green Space & Pond. \$230,000

PERFECT FOR ENTERTAINING



15487 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN

SECLUDED LARGER 3,300 SF 4 Bedroom Brick Ranch with Gourmet Kitchen - Improvements over \$60,000, Master Bath with High end tile and fixtures - Improvements over \$40,000. Open Living Room with Fireplace, Hardwood Flooring, Study, Part Finished Basement with Second Fireplace. 5 Acres \$445,000

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5620 TEXTILE, YPSILANTI, TWP

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VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES	\$35,000
46090 WEAR 1.09 AC BY PARK	\$19,500
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC	\$20,000

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS	\$30,000 & \$40,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES	\$30,000
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES	\$30,000
VACANT WEAR RD 5.28 ACRES	\$60,000
26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308	\$33,000
28710 SUMPTER ROAD	\$10,000

49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES	\$180,000
SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEAR	\$250,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.8 ACRES	\$25,000
SUMPTER 8 AC NEXT TO 28200	\$49,000
VACANT SUMPTER & WILLIS COMM & RESIDENTIAL ZONING 25 ACR	\$225,000

45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT	\$25,000
MORTON TAYLOR 20,000 AND 20,000	\$20,000
VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT"	\$70,000
VACANT HANNAN 4.4 ACRES	\$79,900
MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES	\$40,000
50435 BOG ROAD .55 ACRES	\$50,000

VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES	\$30,000
VACANT BOG RD 12.83 ACRES	\$129,000
47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES	\$176,000
739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES	\$30,000
45109 S SERVICE DR 2+ ACRES	\$274,900
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN	\$72,000

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24 month lease for \$187 per month
UP TO \$6,000 IN REBATES. BUY AS LOW AS \$23,250



2018 ESCAPE SE

24 month lease for \$139 per month
\$3,000 IN REBATES. BUY AS LOW AS \$21,672



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0% FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS.

0% FINANCING ON MANY 2017 MODELS!
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GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!



USED CAR SPECIAL



2018 F-150 SUPERCREW XLT 4x4

24 month lease for \$149 per month
REBATES UP TO \$6,550. BUY AS LOW AS \$36,350



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\$3,000 IN REBATES. BUY AS LOW AS \$31,026



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